THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) to (c) Time & Cost overrun of projects are on account of various reasons such as (i) Inadequate project preparation (ii) Problems in acquisition of land (iii) Delays in environmental/Forest clearance (iv) Delays in finalisation of detailed engineering (v) Delays in supply of equipments (imported as well as indigenous) (vi) Increase in input cost, including freight and additional imports (vii) Fluctuation in Foreign Exchange rates, etc. and are, therefore, not mainly attributable to administrative lapses.

Among the various steps taken to expedite project implementation, mention could be made of the following:

—Intensive monitoring of projects by the Ministry of Programme Implementation through monthly/quarterly monitoring system;

—Indepth periodical review of progress of projects by administrative Ministries and constant pressure on project authorties for expeditious completion;

—Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committee for problem solving and speedy implementation of projects;

—Close follow up by concerned Ministries and project authorities with State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays;

—Inter-ministerial coordination and interaction;

—Emphasis on preparation of realistic project implementation plan;

—Review of project implementation by the Cabinet Committee on Industrial Infrastructure;

—Issue of directions for ensuring continuity of tenure of project head until the completion of project and 2-3 years beyond to ensure accountability for project implementation.

Commission paid in HDW Submarine deal

3144. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the West German Government had in its reply to a question in the German Parliament on 11th June, 1987 admitted that in such deals commissions were paid;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the amount of commission that was paid to agents in the HDW submarine deal, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The FRG Government have stated in their Parliament of being aware that payments of commission occur in such transactions; they have, however, not indicated whether payments were made in this case.

(b) and (c) On learning of the allegation of commissions having been paid to Indian Agents, the then Raksha Mantri had ordered certain inquiries by the agencies under the Ministry of Finance. The various inquiries have since been completed and the reports are presently under consideration.

HDW submarine deal

3145. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ministerial inquiry of West Germany had recommended a fine of DM 50,000 because of grave offence of the HDW submarines detailed drawings, designs and techni-

cal data having been illegally supplied to South Africa which is an Indian Ocean littoral State, operating its navy in Waters which are vital to our defence interests; and

(b) whether the contract about HDW sub-marines barred the transfer of technical data to any other country; if so, effective action taken and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) According to available information, based on the result of the investigations carried out by the Regional Finance Office in Kiel, FRG, the processes initiated against IKL and HDW were dropped by the said office.

(b) Our contract with HDW bars the company from divulging the contents of the contract and any information/data acquired during the performance of the contract to any third party, including a Government. On enquiries made by Government, HDW reported that the papers transferred by them to South Africa did not include any classified or confidential information relating to the Indian submarines. The FRG Government have confirmed this position.

HDW submarine deal

3146. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the Press report which appeared in 'Sunday Mail' dated 13th September, 1987 captioned HDW agent winds up operations; if so, details thereof; and

(b) when did the Government receive information from West Germany about commission in submarine deal and what immediate steps were taken against the agents and agencies involved therein and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) Government have seen the cited press report. The allegation came to Government's notice in February, 1987. Enquiries were undertaken by central investigative agencies whose reports, recently received, are being considred.

Military cases in criminal courts

3147. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently rejected the plea of Government that the criminal courts be kept off the Military cases; and

(b) if so, whether necessary action has been taken against the officers who had tried to supersede the judgement of the civil courts and who had committeed offences under certain section of IPC for which the Supreme Court gave the said verdict?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Defence deals

3148. DR. R. K. PODDAR:

SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-defence personnel including defence civilians engaged in arms deals or employed by arms dealers; and

(b) the number of defence deals which were negotiated through these ex-defence employees civilian and otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) Commercial negotiations for the acquisition of weapons and systems for the Armed Forces are carried out directly